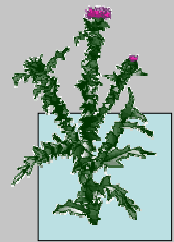


Plumeless Thistle

(Carduus acanthoides)



NRCS has introduced a new program under the 2006 Colorado EQIP Invasive Plant Program to address this particular weed.



Features:

- Member of the Aster family, Thistle tribe
- An introduced winter annual or biennial
- May grow to 5 feet or more
- Flower heads are small but very numerous. The bracts are very narrow and resemble spines
- Flowers are reddish-purple and are either solitary or clustered
- The leaves are deeply lobed, narrower than musk thistle, and very pubescent underneath
- Taproots are large and fleshy
- An extremely prolific seed producer
- Found in pastures, river valleys, and along roadsides
- Prominent in northwestern Colorado

How YOU Can Help

- ✓ Learn to identify invasive plant species in your area.
- ✓ Report sightings of invasive species to your local county or land management agency.
- ✓ Do not pick wildflowers or plants. They may be invasive species and picking them can spread their seeds.
- ✓ Check local weed lists before you buy plants for your garden or yard.
- ✓ Clean all camping gear, clothing, and shoes before leaving an area to avoid inadvertently taking seeds along with you to the next campsite.
- ✓ Always stay on designated trails when camping or hiking, avoiding weed infested areas.
- ✓ Drive only on established roads or trails away from weed infested areas.

For more information on the identification and control of noxious weeds contact your local NRCS and Conservation District Office.